

## General Assembly

## Raised Bill No. 5446

February Session, 2006

LCO No. 1856

\*01856\_\_\_\_ENV

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by: (ENV)

## AN ACT PREVENTING PAVING OF ABANDONED ROADS IN PRESERVED LANDS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Section 13a-55 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2006*):
- 3 Property owners bounding a discontinued or abandoned highway,
- 4 or a highway any portion of which has been discontinued or
- 5 abandoned, shall have a right-of-way for all purposes for which a
- 6 public highway may be now or hereafter used over such discontinued
- 7 or abandoned highway to the nearest or most accessible highway,
- 8 provided such right-of-way has not been acquired in conjunction with
- a limited access highway. If any part of the discontinued or abandoned
- 10 <u>highway lies within the boundaries of protected open space lands</u>
- 11 owned by the state, a municipality or nonprofit land conservation
- 12 <u>organization, a property owner desiring to use the discontinued or</u>
- 13 <u>abandoned highway may make improvements to such highway only</u>
- 14 to the extent necessary to allow passage on such highway, and only if
- 15 <u>no other reasonable access route exists. The provisions of this section</u>
- shall not be construed to allow the installation of utilities, signs or

- 17 structures without the permission of the landowner or owner of a
- 18 conservation easement or other interest in the property.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

## Statement of Purpose:

To prevent paving of abandoned roads in preserved lands.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]